Budget for road safety

1016. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has forwarded any proposal to the Ministry of Finance demanding increase in Budget for road safety etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is response of the Ministry of Finance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI)]: (a) to (c) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has not forwarded any proposal demanding increase in budget for road safety to Ministry of Finance. However, provision in budget for road safety in the year 2002-03 has been increased to Rs. 30.00 crores as against the budget provision of Rs. 10.34 crores in the year 2001 -02.

Shimla-Chirgaon road

1017. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS bd pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade the Shimla-Chirgaon road as National Highway keeping in view of its importance because this whole region is hilly and rural and the above region is very important from the tourism point of view and also this region generates power and produces fruits and vegetables and thus fulfil all the norms set by Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to fulfil the pending demand of the people of that region during the year 2003-04; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI)]: (a) to (c) No proposal has been received to upgrade Shimla-Chirgaon road as a National Highway. However, all proposals for declaration of new National Highways received from State Governments have been returned to them for review based on revised criteria for declaration of